

THE WAR ON TUBERCULOSIS

DR. ROCH PRAISES DR. BIGGS' WAY OF HANDLING IT.

Dr. Roch praises Dr. Biggs' way of handling it. In this city, with supply, in one instance in Paterson, N. J., Dr. Biggs on Tuberculosis Among Jews.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30.—New York city's system of handling tuberculosis is far ahead of any other in the world, according to Dr. Robert Koch, the famous German scientist and discoverer of the Koch tubercle, who addressed the delegates at the opening of the third day's sessions of the International Congress on Tuberculosis here today. Dr. Koch's address followed that of Dr. H. A. Biggs, general medical officer of New York, and his high praise of Dr. Biggs and his methods attracted considerable attention.

The German scientist expressed his belief that the successful execution of the measures described by Dr. Biggs in his paper on the administrative control of tuberculosis represents one of the most important features of the war against the white plague. This is especially so, he said, in view of the great influx of nearly a million aliens a year, the unfortunate and unhygienic conditions of life in the overcrowded tenement districts and the extent of the territory and density of the population in the districts to be administered and controlled.

It is marvelous that Dr. Biggs and his colleagues have succeeded in pulling the conditions. It is remarkable too that he has succeeded in securing compulsory registration of tuberculosis patients in this free country. It is highly important to remove patients, though it should not be neglected in every instance. It is regrettable that in Germany this phase of the situation has not as yet been developed to nearly as high a level as in New York city. We are as yet unprovided with a system of compulsory notification and we are as yet unable to remove patients by force to tuberculosis sanatoria, where such action is desirable.

The German authorities endeavor to meet the situation by discovering for themselves as far as possible the conditions of the patients suffering from tuberculosis and by caring for them and instituting the proper precautions in their homes to render them harmless so far as possible. It is my hope in the future that the German authorities will be able to imitate the methods which have been carried out with such success in New York city.

Dr. Arthur Newsholme of England said he knew of no city where the total programme for prevention of consumption is so complete as in New York. At today's session formal announcement was made of the inoculation of a number of children, all charity patients at the Children's Hospital here, with bacilli with a culture of Koch's tubercle, designed to prove the accuracy of the diagnostic methods advanced by Dr. Deane of Budapest, Hungary. The diagnosis of Dr. Deane's patients was made by the use of the tuberculin test. The experiments were said to be successful, the patients responding quickly to the remedies and passing from danger. In describing his treatment Dr. Deane said:

In its actual form it consists in the inoculation of the patient's arm at three different points at the same time with Koch's tubercle, a mixture of a filtrate of a broth culture of human bacilli, third with a filtrate of a broth culture of bovine bacilli. Within twenty-four hours or a little more the results of the three reactions are noted.

An issue on Dr. Koch's tubercle theory was raised by several speakers. Dr. E. L. Trudeau of Saranac Lake, N. Y., concluded that the Koch idea of "immunizing tubercle" was not satisfactory. Dr. Charles F. Dawson of Newark said Dr. Koch's statements concerning "the unity of human and bovine tuberculosis" are not well founded.

Again, Dr. Nathan Raw of Liverpool criticized the discoverer of the tubercle bacillus in a speech in which he said: "Our great master, Robert Koch, in his last authoritative lecture in 1901 said that 'human and bovine tuberculosis were distinct and separate diseases, and that bovine tuberculosis is not transmissible to man, and that human tuberculosis is not transmissible to man.' Prolonged and careful experimental research has demonstrated beyond doubt that the contention of Dr. Koch was right when he affirmed that human and bovine tuberculosis were not identical; but it has been demonstrated that the great scientist was in error when he said that bovine tuberculosis could not be communicated to the human."

Dr. J. Ward Price of Saranac Lake, N. Y., detailed experiments he had made of guinea pigs, in which he found that tubercle bacilli had been used by tuberculosis patients, and concluded that there was little danger of infection from this source.

In his paper Dr. Biggs declared exhaustively the history of the cause of tuberculosis in New York, declaring that through the cooperation of physicians and by following an extensive campaign of education the progress of the disease has been materially checked. Dr. Alfred F. Hess of the research laboratory of the Board of Health of New York read a paper entitled "A Study of the Tuberculosis Contamination of the New York City Milk Supply." He reported that in a scientific examination of over 100 samples of the market milk of this city, the tubercle bacillus was found in 100 percent of the samples. He said that in one instance he found tubercle bacilli in "commercially pasteurized" milk, which proves that in practice this method of safeguarding the milk supply is not absolutely relied upon. There is no reason for believing the New York city milk supply to be especially infected, and this serious condition of affairs is probably due to the fact that the milk is obtained from cows in the city and its vicinity. These figures by no means imply that of 100 persons who drink milk sixteen will develop tuberculosis. Nor did Dr. Hess wish to infer that the cause of tuberculosis is incited by milk. On the contrary he believes the majority to be due to sputum infection. However, as it is certain that children are especially susceptible to bovine tubercle bacilli, this condition of the milk supply must be regarded, he says, as a serious menace to the community.

Other speakers were Dr. Edward L. Trudeau of Saranac Lake, N. Y., the pioneer in America in the outdoor treatment of consumption, who spoke of the value of tuberculosis in the treatment of tuberculosis; Dr. James A. Miller, director of the Bellevue Hospital tuberculosis clinic, and W. Reid Blair of the New York Zoological Park. Dr. Blair said in part:

Tuberculosis among primates is predominantly a rapidly progressive disease and not a self-limiting affection. Any monkey from which the tubercle bacilli are being eliminated at any time is a source of infection, and the practical conclusion to be drawn is that such an animal must be necessarily be isolated from other animals the moment the existence of tuberculosis is discovered.

The speaker then quoted a number of new arrivals are isolated for a short period and carefully observed before being placed on exhibition has given excellent results in the control of tuberculosis among these animals.

Dr. Maurice Fishberg of New York read a paper on "Tuberculosis Among Jews." He said in part:

THE RIGHT MAN IN THE RIGHT PLACE

Personal attention in business does not mean that one person does everything. It means the best possible man for each part of the work. We provide a "contract" lawyer to draw your contract, an "examining" lawyer to examine your title and a "closing" lawyer, been to your interests and posted as to your rights, to close your title. We must insure our work for you, and are even more interested than you in seeing it well done.

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able for the development and spread of tuberculosis. As is well known, town dwellers are more liable to this disease than inhabitants of the country. Hardly one-tenth of the Jews in the world live in the country, while from one-half to three-fourths of the American population are town dwellers. This alone would lead us to expect that the tuberculosis morbidity and mortality should be higher among Jews than among Christians. If to this be added other social factors which are inimical to the health of the town dwellers, such as indoor occupations, we should not be surprised if we found that they are more often affected by this disease than are people of other faiths who mostly work outdoors.

But, aside from the unfavorable conditions, wherever available, show conclusively that the mortality from tuberculosis is about one-half to one-third that observed among the non-Jewish population around them. In fact the Jewish inhabitants of the lower East Side of New York city have a lower mortality rate from tuberculosis than the rich and prosperous who live in the upper West Side of the city. This in spite of the exceptional congestion of population, unsanitary surroundings, and other social conditions, such as malnutrition, anemia, poverty, etc., which are rampant in the lower East Side.

The main cause of the lower tuberculosis mortality of the Jews is the fact that for two thousand years the Jews have been subjected to the most thorough urbanization and adapted their organism to city and indoor life. Most of the terrors of urban congestion, indoor occupations and unsanitary surroundings which breed tuberculosis among people who are not adapted to them, have been lost through the fact that non-Jewish immigrants to the United States who were agriculturists in their native homes, succumb here to tuberculosis at an appalling rate. The effects of generations of town dwelling on the Jews are not only shown in their lesser mortality from tuberculosis but also in the better prognosis of the disease among them. Tuberculosis runs a slow, chronic course, and the proportion of recoveries is larger among them than among people of other faiths of the same social status.

ORDERS TO FIRE WARDENS.

Put Out Every Forest Fire and Leave Nothing to Start Again.

ALBANY, Sept. 30.—Col. William Fox, State Superintendent of Forests, and Chief Fire Warden Emmons of the State Forest, Fish and Game Commission are still in the Adirondacks, and Commissioner Whipple has telegraphed them to "put out every fire; leave nothing to start again." It is not expected at the Department that the last has been heard of the fires for this season unless there should be more rain, as there is undoubtedly fire left smoldering in the ground, to which it penetrates to a depth of some times three or four feet, and which is sufficient on Monday and Tuesday to completely extinguish fires at this depth.

There were no reports of new fires received to-day, but on the other hand, the report from the fire wardens that the fires they had been fighting had been put out. Representative Lou Emerson of Warrenburgh, who is interested in lumbering, and who has been in the State Department, said that the fires for which the services of a large number of his employees had been enlisted had been extinguished. Charles W. Ferris of the State Department, who was also at the Capitol and declared that his men working for the Fire Warden had been called back from the woods, as their services were no longer required.

Nothing was heard at the State Department regarding reports from Saranac and Dannemora that the fires were out. It was taken for granted that if this was the fact something would have been heard from Col. Fox to that effect, as he still is at Saranac.

SQUARE DEAL FOR COL. STEWART.

Members of Retiring Board Say His Case Will Be Treated the Same as All Others. WASHINGTON, Sept. 30.—Col. W. F. Stewart was put through a preliminary examination to-day by the medical officers of the Army Retiring Board. After a lapse of several days he will be examined again. Several examinations will be held before the doctors will be ready to report their conclusions to the full board for action. Members of the board wish to have it understood that Stewart will be treated the same as all others of his rank, and that the simple duty of the board is to ascertain whether the physical condition of the officer is equal to the requirements of the service.

Movements of Naval Vessels.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30.—The tug Osceola has arrived at Pensacola, the tug Tecumseh at Washington, the battleship Texas at Charleston and the cruiser Prairie at Colon.

The cruiser Milwaukee has sailed from San Francisco for Bremerton.

Army and Navy Orders.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30.—These army orders were issued to-day: These changes are ordered in Quartermaster's Department: Capt. Joseph L. Knowlton, to Fort Totten, Minn.; Capt. William H. Moore, to Fort Hancock, N. J.; Capt. Robert H. Koffe, to Fort Hancock, N. J.; Capt. John L. Freeland, to Fort Hancock, N. J.; Capt. Henry B. Clark, to Fort Hancock, N. J.; Capt. Moore N. Falk, to Fort Hancock, N. J.; Capt. Henry B. Clark, to Fort Hancock, N. J.; Capt. Moore N. Falk, to Fort Hancock, N. J.; Capt. Henry B. Clark, to Fort Hancock, N. J.; Capt. Moore N. Falk, to Fort Hancock, N. J.

These navy orders were issued: First Lieut. Henry F. Phillips, Medical Reserve Corps, to Fort Myer, Va.; Twelfth Cavalry, to West Point Military Academy; First Lieut. Ralph W. New, Medical Reserve Corps, to Fort Myer, Va.; Capt. Allen C. Giffen, to Eleventh Cavalry; Capt. Hugh C. Applewhite, Coast Artillery, placed on retired list.

These navy orders were issued: Lieut. E. W. McIntyre, when discharged from the Marine Corps, to be assigned to the Marine Corps as a senior engineer officer of that corps; Lieut. E. W. McIntyre, when discharged from the Marine Corps, to be assigned to the Marine Corps as a senior engineer officer of that corps; Lieut. E. W. McIntyre, when discharged from the Marine Corps, to be assigned to the Marine Corps as a senior engineer officer of that corps.

TRACTION RECEIVERS TELL

HAD TO RESIST THE P. N. COMMISSIONER'S ORDERS.

Dr. Finances Would Be Worse Than They Are Now. And of the P. N. Commission's Orders. Operation Entertained. Accidents Fewer.

Adrian H. Johns and Douglas Robinson, receivers of the New York City Railway Company, have given out a report of the work performed by them for the year ended September 30, which was the first of the receivership. The report holds out no hope of an early termination of the receivership and even intimates that none of the underlying companies will go under before the financial affairs are adjusted. But in regard to improvement of service it maintains that much has been accomplished and promises much more.

The receivers are greatly pleased with the 155 "pay as you enter" cars, and have ordered 125 more of an improved type, with 30 per cent. greater seating capacity. When the receivers took possession of the property, the report says, the operating plant "had been allowed to deteriorate to so great an extent that a collapse was imminent." This has been bettered. Personal accidents have decreased 9.4 per cent. under the receivership, wagon collisions 19.1 per cent., car collisions 10.5 per cent., and all accidents 13.8 per cent.

The experience of the receivers with the Public Service Commission was not dissimilar to that of Receiver Whitridge of the Third Avenue, though they express their opinion of the commission's usefulness more mildly than did he. They endeavored to obey the orders and requests of the commission, the report says, but in many cases compliance was not practicable, having been damaging both to the public and the security owners, and they appealed to the court and were upheld. They were ordered to increase the number of cars on Eighth avenue, and they tried it, but discontinued the arrangement on finding it a bad one. Some other things they declined to do. They say:

When the Commission attempted to dictate the manner in which a number of the lines should be operated, involving expenditures running up into the millions and far beyond our resources, there was no alternative but to state the facts plainly. Had we attempted to carry out the commission's demands, we would have been forced by public necessity and which were impracticable from a purely operating standpoint in the judgment of experts who have had wide experience in transportation matters for many years, there would have followed a speedy disruption of the system into a number of independently operated lines, involving the abolishing of the transfer privileges, the discontinuance of many of the through routes and a general chaos of prices and fares. There was no alternative but to state the facts plainly. 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